

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-3, 7, and 8. Please amend Claims 4-6 and 9-11. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

The invention claimed is:

- 1-3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently amended) A method for preserving a packaged deoxygenated hemoglobin blood substitute in an oxygen barrier film overwrap package, wherein at least one face of the overwrap package comprises a transparent laminate material, comprising a flexed silicon oxide coated polyester film and wherein at least one other face of the overwrap package comprises a foil laminate material, wherein the overwrap is produced by;
 - a) forming said foil laminate to define at least one chamber,
 - b) placing the packaged deoxygenated hemoglobin blood substitute into said chambers; and
 - c) heat sealing the transparent laminate to the foil laminate whereby said oxygen barrier film overwrap is formed, thereby containing the packaged hemoglobin blood substitute within the overwrap.
5. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of Claims 1 or 4~~ Claim 4, wherein the deoxygenated hemoglobin blood substitute within the overwrap is maintained under a nitrogen, argon or helium atmosphere.
6. (Currently amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or~~ Claim 4, wherein the overwrap has an oxygen permeability of less than about 0.01 cc per 645 square centimeters over 24 hours at one atmosphere and at about 23°C.
- 7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A preserved deoxygenated hemoglobin blood substitute comprising:
 - a) a packaged deoxygenated hemoglobin blood subsitute; and
 - b) an oxygen barrier film overwrap package, wherein at least one face of the overwrap package comprises a transparent laminate material comprising a flexed silicon oxide coated polyester film, and wherein at least one other face of the overwrap package comprises a foil laminate material, wherein the overwrap is produced by:
 - [[I]]I) forming said foil laminate to define at least one chamber;
 - ii) placing the packaged deoxygenated hemoglobin blood substitute into said chambers; and
 - iii) heat sealing the transparent laminate to the foil laminate whereby said oxygen barrier film overwrap is formed thereby containing the packaged hemoglobin blood substitute within the overwrap.
10. (Currently amended) The preserved deoxygenated blood substitute of Claims 7 or Claim 9, wherein the deoxygenated hemoglobin blood substitute within the overwrap is maintained under a nitrogen, argon or helium atmosphere.
11. (Currently amended) The preserved deoxygenated blood substitute of Claims 7 or Claim 9, wherein the overwrap has an oxygen permeability of less than about 0.01 cc per 645 square centimeters over 24 hours at one atmosphere and at about 23°C.